

## **Eastern Missouri Autism Project Parent/Family Information**

You are receiving this packet because you or your child has been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, and you may be eligible to receive services funded through the Eastern Missouri Autism Project (EMAP).

In 1991, the Missouri Autism Projects were created in the Missouri Code of State Regulations. The code describes and identifies roles and responsibilities of the 5 Autism Projects that cover the entire state. You can read the code at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/9csr/9c45-3.pdf>. Each Autism Project has a Parent Advisory Committee connected to it which makes recommendations to the Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities about a number of things, including recommending to the Director how funding allocated for the Project should be used to best serve the needs of families who have loved ones with an autism spectrum disorder. The Parent Advisory Committee is made up of volunteers who are appointed by the Division of Developmental Disabilities. If you are interested in applying to become a member of the Eastern Missouri Autism Project Parent Advisory Committee, please contact your Regional Office and ask to speak to the Autism Navigator. You may view the roster of Autism Navigators at <http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/autismcontactroster.pdf>.

Your packet includes a map of the geographic regions served by Missouri's Autism Projects. The Eastern Missouri Autism Project covers St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County, and Jefferson County, the localities served by the two St. Louis Regional Offices. The telephone numbers for the Regional Offices are:

- St. Louis County Regional Office  
314-587-4800
- St. Louis Regional Tri-County Office (St. Louis City, St. Charles Co., Jefferson Co.)  
314-244-8800

A variety of services may be funded by EMAP. A sheet called "EMAP Services" is included in your packet and can also be viewed at <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/autism/eastautismproject.htm>. In order to receive services funded through EMAP, an individual must:

- Have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, and
- Be eligible to receive services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities, and
- Have an identified need on his/her Individual Support Plan with a PON score, and
- Not be enrolled in a Medicaid Waiver, and
- Not have insurance or other resources that would cover the cost of the service.

There are two ways to get services paid for through EMAP funding:

- Having a one-time or emergency service approved. This is requested through your Support Coordinator and approved by the Assistant Director of the St. Louis Tri-County Regional Office, or

- Being approved for ongoing yearly funding. When this occurs, your service request is funded every year for an amount that does not exceed \$1,500 per fiscal year. This is called being “in the Project.”

Being “in the Project” currently means that you are eligible to receive services or be reimbursed for paying for services up to \$1,500 annually per fiscal year until your circumstances change. An individual may continue to receive services funded through EMAP until he/she:

- Enters a Medicaid Waiver, or
- Is discharged from the Division of Developmental Disabilities, or
- Moves out of state
- Declines to receive services funded through EMAP, or
- Transfers to a region where services are unavailable due to a waitlist, lack of a provider, or unavailability of the desired service.

Your Support Coordinator can assist you with being referred to the Eastern Missouri Autism Project. At that time you should discuss with your Support Coordinator what service(s) in the Individual Support Plan might be funded through EMAP. Because there is a limited amount of funding for EMAP, you or your loved one’s name will be placed on a wait list until funding becomes available. When funding becomes available, your Support Coordinator will contact you in order to submit the Eastern Missouri Autism Project (EMAP) Request for Funding Packet to the Utilization Review Committee (URC).

Enclosed in this packet, you will find:

1. Autism Project Map
2. Autism Project Family Information sheet
3. “Help for Your Child with Autism” brochure
4. IAN brochure
5. Services Reference Guide
6. Sharing Our Strengths Rack Card
7. Missouri Family to Family Resource Center / Release of Information and Referral Form

Once you are “in the Project,” you have some choices as to the way your services are delivered. You may:

- Ask that your funding be redirected from one service to another URC-approved service,
- Ask that funding designated for a month that you did not use the service be redirected to a different month.

Note: All services/funding must be utilized before the end of the fiscal year which is June 30.

Please file this information packet with other records that you want to keep since you may want to reread it from time to time. If you have internet access, you may also check the Office of Autism Services’ website for both general information and updates. That web address is <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/autism/>.

If you have questions about EMAP, please contact your Support Coordinator, the Support Coordinator Supervisor, or the Autism Navigator in the Regional Office that serves you.